

## **SPECIAL SAFETY CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT**

**1728**

(No. 11 December 1997)

When specialized safety clothing, such as protective aprons or dust masks, is required to protect the employee from injury, they will be provided. Supervisors are responsible for seeing that their employees are properly trained in the use of specialized equipment. The supervisors shall document the training.

## **WILDLAND FIRE SHELTER (NEW GENERATION FIRE SHELTER)**

**1728.1**

(No. 71 March 2009)

When engaged in wildland fire suppression activities, each employee must wear a fire shelter packet. The fire shelter must be immediately accessible and may be worn in a vertical or horizontal position on either hip. In the vertical position, the shelter must be worn with the opening facing upward. In the horizontal position, the shelter opening must be worn facing forward.

On the standard issued web gear, the shelter may be worn in the horizontal position in the small of the back. Nothing (backpack, external water systems, specialty pouches, etc.) may interfere with the accessibility and/or obstruct access to the fire shelter in any way.

The New Generation Fire Shelter will not be carried inside fire packs, however the shelter may be carried in a special compartment on an integrated backpack system specifically designed to carry the New Generation Fire Shelter providing it allows for immediate accessibility.

## **WEB GEAR**

**1728.2**

(No. 75 July 2014)

CAL FIRE shall provide personnel a durable NFPA 1977 compliant Load Carrying Protective Equipment system (web gear) with an integrated hydration system as described below:

- Meets the current NFPA 1977 Standards for Load Carrying Protective Equipment
- ISO 9001 Quality Manufacturer Certification
- CAL FIRE considers the baseline Load Carrying Protective System to be inclusive of the following components:
  - Shoulder straps
  - Waist belt
  - Fire shelter with carrying case attached to waist belt utilizing the Modular Lightweight Load-carrying Equipment (M.O.L.L.E) system or as an incorporated pocketed component of the fireline crew pack
  - Integrated hydration system with a minimum 100 ounce capacity

- In addition to the baseline items defined above, construction of the web gear / crew pack will allow for the attachment of modular accessories. The modular accessories attached to the web gear / crew pack must also meet the current NFPA 1977 Standards for Load Carrying Protective Equipment. The modular accessories should also use the M.O.L.L.E attachment system. Accessories equipped with ALICE clips, or equivalent attachment means, are permissible if approved by the baseline system's manufacturer. Examples of modular accessories include but are not limited to:
  - Additional Water Canteen Holders
  - Fussee / Firing Tool Holder
  - Portable Radio Holder (Handie Talkie)
  - Hose Clamp Holder
  - Personal Pouch
  - Day Pack
- All web gear / crew packs must have an integrated hydration system. Including:
  - Mouth piece/bite valve which must have an integrated on/off valve
  - Minimum 100 fluid ounce capacity
  - Optional 200 fluid ounce capacity for special (fire crews, inclement environments etc.) firefighting applications that require additional drinking water
  - Wide mouth hydration bladder opening to facilitate ease of cleaning
  - Integrated / Insulated bladder storage compartment
  - Insulated drinking tube
  - Bladder and drinking tube are to be constructed of anti-microbial materials
  - Protective cover over bite valve
  - Replaceable bite valve and drinking tube
  - Must be easily removed for refilling and maintenance
- All products must include a lifetime warranty on manufacturing.
- All basic Load Carrying Protective Equipment system components (shoulder straps, belt, hydration compartment, drinking tube, etc.) shall be solid black in color.

Reflective striping on web gear is recommended but not required.

## **PERSONAL ALARMS**

**1728.3**

(No. 38 September 2002)

The department shall provide a personal alarm device for every firefighter engaged in interior structural firefighting activities requiring the use of self-contained breathing apparatus.

## **LIFE LINES**

**1728.4**

(No. 38 September 2002)

Life lines must comply with Title 8, CCR, Section 1670 C, D, F, G, with a minimum supporting dead weight of 5400 pounds.

## **SAFETY ITEMS FOR PICK-UP LABOR**

**1728.5**

(No. 38 September 2002)

Emergency Pick-up Labor, for wildland fire suppression activities are required to wear the following safety PPE: (CCR, T8, Section 3410)

- Helmets that meet or exceed ANSI Z89.1-1969. This can include structural helmets, wildland firefighting helmets, or industrial hard hats.
- Gloves, constructed of leather or treated fabric.
- Clothing
  - Flame resistant protective shirts.
  - 100 percent cotton or 100 percent wool can be worn in lieu of other flame-resistant type clothing.
- Boots shall consist of heavy duty lace-type work boots with non-slip soles and heels, and shall provide firm ankle support. Leather tops shall be at least six inches in height measured from the bottom of the shoe heel.
- Fire Shelter

The department will make every effort to provide fire shelters and safety clothing to pick-up labor for use in fire suppression operations. Safety uniforms of any regular fire department, fire district, or volunteer fire company that meet the appropriate CAL/OSHA standards will be acceptable on a CAL FIRE fire. Regardless, everyone must receive shelters and the appropriate deployment training.

## High Visibility Safety Apparel (Vests)

1728.6

(No. 71 March 2009)

As required by federal regulation 23 CFR Part 634, personnel engaged in operations on or within the right-of-way of any Federal-aid highway must don ANSI/ISEA 107, 2004 Class 2 or 3 compliant high visibility garments (vests). In addition to Federal-aid highways, personnel engaged in operations on or within the right-of-way of any roadway or highway open to public travel will don high visibility garments (vests). Any current ANSI/ISEA compliant garment which meets or exceeds the 107, 2004 standards will be an acceptable substitute. Personnel donning ANSI compliant high visibility garments (vests) must do so according to the apparel manufacturer's recommendation and must be aware of any and all limitations in the application and use of such garments.

Personnel are exempt from donning the high visibility garments (vests) when exposed to flame, fire, heat source, hazardous materials and/or when they are exposed to hazardous conditions where the use of such garments may increase the risk of injury to such personnel. Examples of such hazardous conditions may include, but not be limited to: fire suppression activities, hazardous materials investigation/mitigation, vehicle extrication, and technical rescue such as swift water, over-the-side, and confined space. As soon as the hazardous condition is mitigated, personnel must don the high visibility garment (vest) for the remaining duration of the incident.

Examples of operations requiring the donning of high visibility garments (vests) may include, but not be limited to: roadside medical aids, public service assists, traffic control, and work projects. Additionally, a designated and dedicated Lookout should always be posted when personnel are in close proximity to any vehicular traffic.

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